

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/517,700

Examiner

Douglas N. Washburn

Applicant(s)

KIRSCHNER ET AL.

Art Unit

2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 23 January 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-12,14 and 15.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION
EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1 An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr E. Zborozky on 8 February 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (currently amended) A method for operating an electronic circuit for detecting measured values, in particular to compensate for imprecisions x1 and/or x2 in a digitized measurement signal, including the following steps:

generation by at least one sensor unit (110) of an analog measurement signal, which represents a measured quantity detected by the sensor unit (110);

digitizing by a signal detecting unit (120) with a first analog/digital converter (121) of the analog measurement signal; and

production by a voltage supply unit (130) that has a first voltage source (132) of a first supply voltage (VS1) with an imprecision x1 for the sensor unit (110) and production by a second voltage source (134) a second supply voltage (VS2) with an imprecision x2 for the signal detecting unit (120), the imprecisions x1, x2 being transmitted to the measurement signal,

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compensation by a correction unit (127) of the signal detection unit (120) that compensates for the effects of the imprecisions x_1 and/or x_2 on the digitized measurement signal in response to a digitized voltage signal (U) representing the imprecision x_1 of the first supply voltage, and emission of a compensated digitized measurement signal (M) resulting from the compensation;

provision of a second signal detecting unit (120') that is operated with the first supply voltage (VS1) and includes a second analog/digital converter (122') that digitizes the second supply voltage (VS2) to generate the voltage signal (U), which represents the imprecision x_1 of the first supply voltage (VS1), the second analog/digital converter (122") likewise being operated with the first supply voltage (VS1);

storage of a value of the digitized measurement signal (M) at time n ; storage of a value at time n of a voltage signal (U) that represents the imprecision x_1 of a first supply voltage (VS1);

calculation of a normalization factor N by dividing the value of the digitized measurement signal at time n by the value of the voltage signal (U) at time n ; and

generation of a compensated digital measurement signal (M) by multiplying the normalization factor N by the value of the digitized measurement signal at time n .

Amend claim 12 as follows:

12. (currently amended) A computing unit, wherein said computing unit is adapted to execute a computer program code for an electronic circuit for detecting measured values, wherein the computer program code is stored on a data medium that is readable by a computer, and wherein the program code is suitable for carrying out the method as recited in claim 11 when it is executed by a computing unit.

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Please cancel claim 13.

Response to Amendment

2 Applicant amendment overcomes §101 rejection of claims 12 and 14 and the rejection is withdrawn.

Applicant amendment overcomes §102(b) rejection of claims 1-4, 11, 12 and 14 and the rejection is withdrawn.

Applicant amendment overcomes objection to claims 6-10 and the objection is withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

3 Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14 and 15 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 recites, in part, "a second signal detecting unit (120') that is operated with the first supply voltage (VS1) and includes a second analog/digital converter (122') that digitizes the second supply voltage (VS2) to generate the voltage signal (U), which represents the imprecision x1 of the first supply voltage (VS1), the second analog/digital converter (122'') likewise being operated with the first supply voltage (VS1)". This feature **in combination with the remaining claimed structure** avoids the prior art of record.

Claims 2-4 and 6-10 depend from claim 1.

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Claim 11 recites, in part, "provision of a second signal detecting unit (120') that is operated with the first supply voltage (VS1) and includes a second analog/digital converter (122') that digitizes the second supply voltage (VS2) to generate the voltage signal (U), which represents the imprecision x1 of the first supply voltage (VS1), the second analog/digital converter (122") likewise being operated with the first supply voltage (VS1)". This feature **in combination with the remaining claimed structure** avoids the prior art of record.

Claims 12 and 14 depend from claim 11.

Claim 15 recites, in part, "the signal detecting unit (120) has a correction unit (127) that compensates for the effects of the imprecisions x1 and/or x2 on the digitized measurement signal in response to a digitized voltage signal (U) representing the imprecision x1 of the first supply voltage, and emits a compensated digitized measurement signal (M) resulting from the compensation". This feature **in combination with the remaining claimed structure** avoids the prior art of record.

It is these limitations, which are not found, taught or suggested in the prior art of record, and are recited in the claimed combination that makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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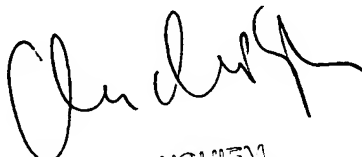
Conclusion

4 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas N. Washburn whose telephone number is (571) 272-2284. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 6:30 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


DOUGLAS N. WASHBURN
PATENT EXAMINER

DNW